REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are active in the present application. Claims 7 and 9-10 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. No new matter is added. An action on the merits and allowance of claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

- --7. (Amended) A paper coating color characterized in that it contains, in addition to the usual additives, the novel agent according to [any one of Claims 4 to 6] Claim 4.
- 9. (Amended) A paper coating color according to [either one of Claims 7 or 8] <u>Claim</u> 7, characterized in that its water retention and Brookfield viscosity are adjusted simultaneously.
- 10. (Amended) Paper and cardboard coated with the coating color according to [any one of Claims 7 to 9] Claim 7.--